

THE SILENT WORLD.

Vol. II.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 1, 1872.

No. 3.

FOR THE SILENT WORLD.

ALICE.

Will I not ever cherish thee?
Will I not ever, ever be
Thine own true heart, eternally,
Alice, ma belle?

Within thy soft cerulean eyes
A spirit stray, from Paradise,
Looks out with sweetest, glad surprise,
Alice, ma belle.

Amid thy amber tresses fair,
About thy white brows, free from care,
Within thy soft cheek's dimpled snare
Sly Cupid smiles.

This pearly-tinted, dainty hand,
The tiniest snow-flake in the land,
Wakes with its touch sweet music grand,
A strain of love.

The golden toy thy red lips kissed,
The token of our lover's tryst,
Recordeth, dear heart, all I've wished,
For thee, ma belle.

Sweet eyes of heavenly depths of blue
The windows of thy white soul true,
Arms that enfoldeth me to you
With Love's embrace.

Thou tellest me in language plain,
How I may Paradise regain,
Chanting to thee, my heart's refrain,
Alice, ma belle, Alice, ma belle.

—S. ADAMS WIGGIN.

REMINISCENCES OF THE WAR.

II.

In a previous article allusion was made to the friendly relations existing between the soldiers encamped before the Dear and Dumb Institution in Washington, D. C., and the pupils thereof. So strong was the enthusiasm of the boys in the cause of their country, and so great their admiration for the soldiers, that they were wont to spend *all* of their play-hours and holidays in wandering about the camps of the regiments, even visiting those at a considerable distance from the Institution.

One day some of the boys betook themselves to the camp of a Rhode Island regiment; and their mode of communication being novel to the soldiers, and their visit a most welcome relief from the dullness of camp life, quite a lengthy conversation sprang up, many of the officers taking part, as they usually did. In fact, the officers were those who most generally delighted in the boys' company. The youngsters, like all boys, felt and believed strongly, and this time they were vehement in their protestations of patriotism. The colonel commanding the regiment joined the group, and was so well pleased with the outspoken sentiments of one boy, named James Henry, that he gave him a silver quarter. This colonel was Ambrose E. Burnside, afterwards commander-in-chief of the Army of the Potomac. Poor Henry, a noble, manly youth, was killed a year or two afterward by a train on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

Early one morning a refugee from the South came to the Institution. His face was sad, and his step slow and hesitating.

He looked no common beggar, although his clothes hung about his form in unseemly tatters. He proved to be a Frenchman, who had fled from New Orleans to escape the conscription for the rebel army. The principal of the Institution was enabled to converse with him, by the aid of signs, when his French was at fault. The poor man was overjoyed when he learned that the principal himself was of French extraction, and he poured out the story of his wrongs and troubles with a volubility that quite puzzled that worthy man, whose opportunities for speaking French had been very limited, and he was compelled to check him very often. On such occasions he would bring up with a jerk; then commence to speak slowly and distinctly; but, before he had got out three words, off he would go with a whole volley of adjectives and expletives, expressive of his joy at meeting a fellow-countryman. Then he grew confiding, and showed a bank-book in which were entered several hundred dollars to his credit, and said that he disliked to beg, but he had no ready money, and would be eternally grateful if the principal would give him an old suit of clothes, that he might present himself to his New York friends in a respectable dress. His request was complied with, and he departed, with "Thankee, monsieur; vifs remerciements; Dieu vous fait heureux, monsieur." He was observed to make his way to a fence a few rods from the Institution, and, in full view, divest himself of his rags and throw them into a ditch. Then he got into his new suit, and went off stretching his neck in every direction to see if it fitted him well.

At another time, a drunken soldier, whose befuddled brain had evidently converted the Institution into a home for inebriates, tried to enter the door. He was discovered and summarily ejected; whereupon in unreasoning rage he seized two large stones and was about to hurl them against the door, when his uplifted arm was arrested by the mildly-put question, "Are you a Union soldier?" Letting his arm fall he pondered a moment, then answered with great emphasis, "Yes, I am;" then, with increased vehemence, as though a doubt of his patriotism had been expressed, "WHO SAYS I AIN'T? (hic!)"

"Nobody; and I am sure that you do not wish to molest the Union people who live in this house—"

"Oh, no, (hic!) no!" and the soldier humbly and feelingly apologized for creating so much disturbance, and being sure that he was forgiven he shook hands and departed.

An appeal to the patriotism of the soldiers was seldom without an effect, no matter how inflamed they might be with passion and resentment. We have in mind another incident, illustrating this observation, which was full of danger to the life and property of our lady neighbor of Brentwood, but we must defer it till our next.

ZENO, of all virtues, made his choice of silence.

PROFESSOR RICHARD OWEN, of the Indiana State University, states that he knows of a case in Ohio where some thirty families have married and intermarried until they can no longer tell their relationship. Most of the progeny are deaf-mutes, and the remainder little above idiotic.

An awful thing happened at Harrisburg lately. A man was accused by his wife of infidelity to his marriage vows, when he replied that he "hoped God would paralyze his tongue if he was guilty." He had scarcely finished the sentence when his tongue refused to perform its natural functions.

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Published Semi-Monthly by

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MELVILLE BALLARD.

All communications designed for insertion should be addressed to "The Editor."

All subscriptions should be sent by P. O. money-orders, draft or registered letter. Money forwarded otherwise at the risk of the sender.

Terms: Single subscriptions \$1.50 per year, in advance. Clubs of ten \$1.25. Single copies, 8c.

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ARTICULATION.

It is very evident that there is a good deal in the system of teaching the deaf and dumb by the articulation method; certainly a good deal more than some advocates of the sign method are willing to admit. The steady advance it is making in our country and the strong claims to efficiency which it puts forward are too patent to be disregarded.

We have been very favorably impressed by a perusal of Mr. A. Graham Bell's exposition of his method of "Visible Speech" in *The Annals* for January, and we note with pleasure that he is to introduce it into the American Asylum in May next. Briefly, the system consists of a series of elementary symbols, "pictorial of the parts of the mouth and of their modes of action. As the various organs of speech are disposed in forming any particular sound, the corresponding symbols are put together to build up a compound character indicative of the position of the mouth. This compound character most truly represents the sound intended, because no person can put his mouth into the position indicated without producing it." The symbols are taught the pupil by very simple and yet ingenious processes, and it is interesting to read of the manner in which the pupil is made to appreciate rhythm in syllables and modulation in voice. Mr. Bell believes that it is only by degrees that the pupil can be made to talk. He must first learn to make sounds; and although the progress to a full command of the organs of articulation is slow, it is sure. Too much is often sacrificed to simple effect. Mr. Bell discards all this from his system, and goes at his work with a patience that looks only to the end for its reward.

Although Mr. Bell says that his system has nothing to do with the old contest between signs and the manual alphabets on the one hand, and articulation and lip reading on the other, and that it deals with articulation, pure and simple, we cannot help looking upon it as giving great strength to the articulation cause. If the exponents of that system are wise they will incorporate it with their method, and at least give it a fair trial.

There is something very attractive in the idea of teaching the dumb to speak, and we do not wonder at the enthusiasm which marks all those engaged in the cause. "Howard Glyn-don," in a Christmas story, has feelingly depicted the joy and surprise of a fond mother on hearing her little deaf and dumb boy for the first time speak the sacred name of "mother," and wish her a "merry Christmas."

Whether articulation is the best medium for imparting a good practical education is quite another matter, and one we do not propose to discuss at present. Whether it will have any effect upon the future career of the National Deaf-Mute College is also an interesting question, for this College is conducted on the sign method, and it is not clear to us how lectures and public exercises can be made to benefit lip readers, for we confess our faith is weak as to their ability to do anything in their line except at very close quarters. But these are questions of the future, and to the future we consign them.

NOTES.

SUBSCRIPTIONS have come in lately in a gently refreshing way, and scarcely a day has passed since we offered our premiums on which we have turned away empty-handed from our post-office box. Stay not your hands, kind friends. Accept our thanks and continue to get subscribers. Send them to us as fast as obtained, and we will credit them properly, and forward the premium desired when the number necessary to obtain it is complete. Those who like our paper can help to make it better by getting *one* more subscriber, and we do not think they will refuse us so small a boon.

WE introduce into this number a new feature, a record of current events in the social and political world—the *noisy world*, as it might be called in contradistinction to our "silent world"—which we hope will be acceptable to our readers. 'Tis true that this epitome might all be found in other papers, but most people have not the time and opportunity to undertake the amount of reading it would require to command the information contained in our single column. We propose to sift the great heap of fortnightly news and give our readers the living coal, unchoked by ashes. The fact that they require to be well informed of passing events as well as other people precludes the necessity for any excuse on our part for so doing.

The Deaf-Mute Advance, proceeding on the assumption that we have prophesied its death, waxes very wroth, confesses it has the itch, calls us names, and does a great many other foolish things. Now, if *The Advance* will dust its specs and take another look at what we said about the extinguishing of a brief candle, it will find that *another* journal is referred to. We do not wish *The Advance* to die. On the contrary, we should be very sorry should it die of the itch with which it is now afflicted, for we think it does some good, and could be made to do a great deal more; and besides, we consider it one of the best comic papers we ever saw. The sober earnestness with which it asserts the simplest facts almost makes us believe it is not joking; and the mock innocence with which the editor perpetrates his blunders, and the skillfulness with which the printers distribute their typographical errors, is a marvel to us, even in the midst of the mirth which often shakes our rheumatic sides. How can you be so cruel, dear *Advance*?

OBITUARY.

A LATE number of *The Glasgow Herald* contains a notice of the death of Mr. DUNCAN ANDERSON, for forty-three years head-master of the Glasgow Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.

Mr. Anderson was a native of Edinburgh, where he was trained as a teacher of deaf-mutes by the late Mr. Kinniburgh. He was appointed head-master of the Glasgow Institution upon the death of the son of Mr. Kinniburgh, who held that position, and entered upon his duties with zeal, resolved, as far as in him lay, to elevate the character of the education of the deaf and dumb. The success of his efforts is attested by the unusual proficiency of the graduates of his Institution, some of whom it has been our pleasure to encounter in this country. Their general intelligence and excellent command of language has always impressed us with sincere admiration for the Glasgow Institution and for the gentleman whose loss we now chronicle.

Mr. Anderson stood, by common consent of the teachers of the United Kingdom, (and shall we not also say of this country?) at the head of his profession. He was always a warm supporter of any method of instruction that promised to be of aid to the deaf and dumb, and hence it was that he early advocated the teaching of articulation. In order to train his pupils to the utmost degree of acquirement of which they were sus-

ceptible, he dissected the organs of speech and constructed models to show their reciprocal action in the formation of sounds. He then contrived a system of notation, whereby these combinations were indicated to the eye in such a manner as to enable the teacher to practise the pupil in articulation, or the intelligent pupil to acquire the art by his own persevering study. The success in this direction was not sufficient, in his opinion, to compensate for the labor bestowed, and when he became convinced of this he was not the man to waste more time or labor in the pursuit of a whim, and forthwith he abandoned it. Still, it is to be regretted that the printing of his method—which was in progress when the infirmities of age compelled him to relinquish his office—was left incomplete.

Mr. Anderson was a man of much simplicity of character, and of a most affectionate disposition. He lived for the deaf and dumb, aided them with a liberal hand out of his own resources, spared no pains to obtain occupation for them, and followed them with a paternal interest when they became scattered throughout the world. Glasgow graduates in this country, who are many, will sincerely mourn the death of their truest friend and benefactor, and it is but fit that the whole community should recognize in his death the loss of a friend and benefactor to our class and to humanity.

The noble edifice which overlooks the South Side Park in Glasgow is the best monument to his memory that could be erected, for it was through his exertions and those of the late Mr. Pinney, who died only a few months back, that this Institution was built. It was he who chose the site and planned the interior arrangements, and an enduring memorial it will ever remain, a credit to the city and the worthy scene of a system of instruction of the deaf and dumb that is no where surpassed.

RANDOM READINGS.

J. C. F. L. HABERMAS, born at Berlin, Prussia, in 1783, lost his hearing in childhood, and became a pupil of the institution of Berlin. His skill in reading on the lips was so remarkable that it was sometimes said people meeting and conversing with him would never suspect that he was deaf. Dr. Day, however, shows that this statement was somewhat exaggerated. Habermas died 1826.

KRUSE tells us of a merchant of Frankfort, Germany, named Boving, who, having become totally deaf after he was married and settled in life, by studying the movements of his own lips before a mirror, acquired such expertness in reading on the lips that he could understand those who came to his store, buy and sell in the markets, and transact all other necessary business at home or abroad as if he could still hear. There may be a very few such instances in this country. Mr. W. M. Chamberlain, of Massachusetts, is very expert in reading on the lips, but, as he told us once, is frequently obliged to resort to writing.

THE Abbé de l'Epée was not, as many people suppose, the first inventor of the language of signs or of the manual alphabet. The former is as old as the human race, and the latter, under one form or another, has been used for nearly three thousand years. The ancient Greeks and Romans had manual alphabets, some of which are preserved in a little treatise of the venerable Bede, an Anglo-Saxon monk of the eighth century. What De l'Epée did invent was the system of methodical signs; that is, signs devised to represent not ideas, but words, with all the grammatical inflections and particles of a given language. This system has been lauded to the skies by many teachers, and as strongly condemned by others.

SOME of our readers will remember the story of the deaf and dumb boy found in the streets, and carried to the Abbé de

l'Epée to be educated. The good Abbé suspected that there was some mystery about this boy. He travelled with the boy through France till Theodore recognized his native place, and it was discovered that the heir of the Count of Solar, a little deaf-mute boy, had disappeared at the time the little Theodore was found. By the efforts of De l'Epée, Theodore was recognized as Count of Solar. But, during the confusion of the Revolution, his friend being no more, this decision was reversed, and the young Count de Solar, in desperation, joined the army and perished. The discovery of the deaf-mute waif's parentage and rights furnished the plot for a popular drama.

J. R. B.

[CORRESPONDENCE.]

A SOCIAL FESTIVAL.

THE President of the Empire State Deaf-Mute Association, Mr. H. C. Rider, having invited the members of the association and other deaf-mute friends to meet socially at his residence, in Mexico, Oswego county, New York, on Wednesday, January 10, 1872, thirty-six responded, and formed a bright and happy company.

Several ladies and gentlemen of Mexico took a special interest in this festival, tastefully decorating the parlors of Mr. Rider's house and sending refreshments for the supper table. Contributions also came from several deaf-mutes of Oswego county. The following sentence, arranged in beautiful ever-green lettering, appeared on the side of one of the parlors: "Welcome, members and friends of the Empire State Deaf-Mute Association."

At 7 o'clock P. M. there was held in Grace Church a special service, which was attended by all the deaf-mutes and a goodly number of their hearing and speaking friends. As the service was read by the rector, Rev. Mr. Watson, it was interpreted by Dr. Gallaudet. In a short address the latter clergyman called attention to the interesting fact that on Sunday, December 31, there were held, as an outgrowth of "The Church Mission to Deaf-Mutes," five services, one in each of the following places: New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, York, Pa., and Boston. With more means and men, he promised, with God's blessing, to inaugurate church services for deaf-mutes in all the large cities of the country. The Rev. Mr. Watson preached an appropriate and effective sermon on the text, "He doeth all things well. He maketh both the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak." This was interpreted by Dr. Gallaudet.

After the service there followed a merry partaking of the feast of good things which had been bountifully provided at Mr. Rider's house. This important part of the programme having been satisfactorily concluded, Mr. L. H. Conklin afforded great pleasure to the company by an exhibition of his camera. The hours passed rapidly on, bringing but little apparent drowsiness or weariness. Games and sports succeeded each other in a wonderful manner till the morning light of another day appeared. Before breakfast most of the company went again to the church in order to have a better opportunity of seeing the Christmas decorations and the window which had been placed in the chancel as a memorial of Mr. John W. Chandler, the first President of the Empire State Deaf-Mute Association.

The managers of the Empire State Deaf-Mute Association held a meeting at this gathering, and decided to have a birthday festival in honor of the late Thomas H. Gallaudet, in the city of New York, December 10, 1872. This will be the eighty-fifth anniversary of the birth of the founder of the first institution for deaf-mutes in this country. It is hoped that the festival will be largely attended by deaf-mutes from every part of the United States. Particulars will be given in due time.

THE COLLEGE RECORD.

OUR PANTOMIMES.

THE pantomimists exhibited in Lincoln Hall Friday evening, January 20, to a full audience. The occasion was the Second Annual Reception of the Young Mens' Christian Association. The spacious hall, containing fifteen hundred seats, was filled, and the boys acquitted themselves very creditably both in the shadow and open pantomimes. Our critic was engaged behind the scenes, and so we cannot be very positive in our assertions as to the success achieved. But if the critics of the daily papers are to be trusted, the acting was "fine," "clever," "superb," and our man thinks that if the performance is to be judged by the amount of amusement it afforded to the spectators, it was an unmitigated success; for, from frequent peeps through cracks in the scenery, he can affirm that the audience laughed heartily from beginning to end.

Accidents did happen, to be sure. The pump-handle broke, or, rather, *Toby* broke the pump-handle, but the water came nevertheless; then the crank to the statue came off, and *Figaro* turned an imaginary one—still the statue gave him a good round thump; and *Beppo* thinks that *Toby* played him a scurvy trick in putting such an immense charge of powder in the blunderbuss—still the audience only jumped a little more and knew not the difference. *Colin* hugged his sweetheart as heartily as if he had been the genuine girl he looked, and not a prosaic Freshman in petticoats; and, 'tis said, the "gemman ob color" rolled those splendid midnight orbs of his with such effect as to conquer the prejudices of two "yaller gals" to white people, and gain permission to see them home after the performance, in all his tinsel and burnt cork.

And the shadow men, too, got along very well. The Young Christians have been anxiously inquiring after the digestion of the little, weazened old man who ate so much "frozen hash" at *Freund's*, and who went away with such a big belly, and whether the "peeler" caught that little thief; and if the "tragical duelists" still live in peace and amity with each other. Softly, friends; they were but shadows—mere phantoms of a dream.

All of the performers have been elected members of the Association for one year, and each presented with a ticket entitling them to the use of the library for the same period. This is a very welcome testimonial of the appreciation in which their efforts are held by the Association, and the boys are grateful. Their expenses in costumes, etc., were also paid by the Association.

Somebody says, "Go it again, *Toby*," but *Toby* shakes his head ruefully, and lays his head upon his hand to signify that he is "played out."

H STREET is now lighted with gas as far out as the pavement to College.

THE second track of the H-street railway is finished, and cars run every three minutes.

MISS VIRGINIA B. GALLAUDET, daughter of the rector of St. Ann's church, is visiting her uncle, the President.

THE missionary chapel in process of erection on Eighth street, near the Institution, is an offshoot of Dr. Smith's Presbyterian Church.

THE students are very much obliged to the Columbia railway for providing cars to convey them home after the performance at Lincoln Hall.

THERE was a reception at the White House not long since. Only one student attended so far as we can ascertain. Quite a contrast to days of yore!

THE two-acre manure heap, bequeathed to the Institution by the cavalry regiments encamped near us during the war, has been scattered over our wide domain, and has greatly enriched the land.

THE Reading Club would express its thanks to Mr. J. L. Noyes, principal of the Minnesota Institution, for the copy of his report which he was so kind as to send it. It might be to the advantage of other Institutions if they did likewise.

CHESS is exciting considerable attention among the boys, and many interesting contests have been played. The Pennsylvania fellows carry off all the laurels. There is talk of forming a Chess Club.

THE Committees on the District of Columbia of the House and Senate paid the Institution a visit on the 27th, and the students and pupils had to show off their paces. Quite a favorable impression was made.

A SENIOR was returning from town, and being in a hurry to get to College, he jumped upon one of the H-street cars. As fate would have it, one of the softer sex soon entered the car and took a seat by his side, thereby driving him snug into the corner, from whence he was doomed to cast wistful glances at the mass of glossy curls, without being able to get a peep at the face not far beyond. They had not proceeded far, when down went the fore part of the car so suddenly that the Senior was precipitated with such force against the fair one as to send her tumbling from her seat. Regaining her feet, she turned her eyes full upon the Senior and looked such unutterable things that he was tempted to beat a hasty retreat, but, controlling himself, he, with all the dignity of his standing in College, stammered out, (for he can articulate,) "Excuse me, madam—guess the driver has brought our cart to grief." This impromptu compelled a bewitching smile on the face of the fair one, much to the Senior's delight, and he thereupon politely assisted her to alight, and then proceeded to help the driver repair damages. The job finished, all got back into the car with the exception of two, who concluded it would be, at that particular time, more pleasant to walk than to ride with a man who couldn't keep his car on the track.

INSTITUTION NEWS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE Institution at Belleville, Ontario, had a Christmas pantomime, performed by the pupils before a large audience, and entitled "Simon's Mishaps." "Mr. Greene sustained the character of *Simon* in a manner that would have done him credit on the London boards," says the local paper.

MR. A. GRAHAM BELL, author of the article on "Visible Speech" in the January number of *The Annals*, and at present in Boston teaching deaf-mutes according to his system, has been engaged by the American Asylum for the spring and summer months to give the benefit of his knowledge and experience to those of the inmates who can receive it.

THE pupils of the Staunton (Va.) Institution enjoyed themselves so prodigiously during Christmas week that they adopted the prevalent fashion of rushing into print, and came out in *The Staunton Spectator* with half a column of very gracefully-expressed thanks to their officers and friends. We are sorry we cannot print the article for want of space.

INDIANA has been somewhat backward, and, in the opinion of many outsiders, strangely so, in making any move towards assisting in the effort to erect a Clerc Memorial. The truth is, there have been so many associations that she did not know which one to join, and therefore resolved upon a "passive policy," until something definite was determined upon. Of late there has been considerable discussion as to the propriety of organizing a branch association. The opinion seems to prevail that the best course is to await the results of the labors of the committee appointed at the Albany Convention before taking any decisive step.

IT will be remembered that in a recent number of THE SILENT WORLD we mentioned the fact that Mr. James Kelly had offered to give ten acres of land near Wilkinsburg, Western Pennsylvania, for the site of an institution for the deaf and dumb, provided the sum of \$20,000 was raised by subscription. Rev. J. G. Brown has already secured that sum, and a deed of the land has been presented. Mr. Brown has as much as \$50,000 pledged, and they propose to begin the erection of a building in the spring. Dr. Worthington, the State Commissioner of Education, has promised to get the legislature to pass a bill of incorporation this winter. So Pennsylvania will soon have two Institutions.

MICHIGAN.

THERE has been a change in the school laws of this Institution. The daily session commences at 8 A. M., and continues with a recess of fifteen minutes until a quarter to 1 P. M. Dinner at 1. At 2 o'clock the boys go into the shops and work till 5.

THE shoe shop is in the lower story of the school building on the west side, and is under the direction of Mr. R. M. Gay, one of the most experienced shoemakers in the city.

By the Flint papers we are made acquainted with a very pleasant affair which occurred when the Institution was lighted with gas for the first time. It was the presentation to the Hon. J. B. Walker, the efficient managing commissioner of the Institution, of an elegant ebony cane, with a gold handle, by the teachers of the Institution. Our efficient correspondent, Mr. W. L. M. Breg, made the presentation address, as the teacher of the longest service in the Institution, and we regret want of space prevents us from giving both it and Mr. Walker's reply.

THE MONTH.

HOME.

JAMES FISK, JR., "Prince of Erie," was assassinated in New York on the 7th by Edward S. Stokes. This makes one rascal less and one murderer more. As usual, there was a woman in the case. Stokes has been indicted and will be tried soon, most likely in February.—There is a Congressional investigation committee at work in the New York custom-house. They find its moral atmosphere very impure.—In Louisiana a bitter feud has been waging for several weeks between the friends of Gov. Warmoth and those of ex-Speaker Carter, who was expelled from the legislature through the influence of the Governor. Carter, during the war, was a colonel in the Confederate army, and, though now claiming to be a Republican, has gathered around him many lawless and desperate men, who once fought under Secesia's banner. Carter was several times on the point of precipitating a collision with the troops posted in charge of the legislative halls by Gov. Warmoth; but the coolness and decision of Gen. Emory, the commander of the United States regulars at New Orleans, deterred Carter from executing his threats. At last accounts the Carterites were getting discouraged, and had quite given up the fight. In the meantime Congress has dispatched a committee to New Orleans to investigate matters.—The trial of Mrs. Wharton, at Annapolis, for the alleged poisoning of Gen. Ketchum has excited great interest. The prosecution summoned a number of experienced physicians to prove that Gen. Ketchum died from the effects of poison, while the defence proved quite as conclusively from other physicians that he died a natural death. Public opinion, which at first was extremely unfavorable to Mrs. Wharton, has now veered quite around. On the 24th the jury rendered a verdict of "not guilty."—Rev. Mr. Hepworth, the most eloquent Unitarian minister in New York, has become, in fact, if not in name, a Congregationalist.—The four great rascals of the New York Tammany ring are all, with one exception, dislodged from the offices to which they were elected and whose trusts they betrayed. The exception is Mayor Oakley Hall, and he can remain in the City Hall but a little while longer.—Major General Henry W. Halleck died in Louisville on the 9th. He was one of the most highly-educated men in the United States army. He went by the name of "Old Brains" during the war; but Gen. McClellan's friends pretended that the sobriquet was given in derision.—The Imperial Japanese Embassy arrived in San Francisco on the 15th, and are expected in Washington by way of the Pacific railroad. The Japs are said to take kindly to the English language. Mr. Mori, the Japanese charge d'affaires at Washington, lately uttered the prediction that it would at no distant day be the principal language of Japan.—Utah is going to apply for admission into the Union, but Congress will be in no hurry to grant the request.—Out of 3,500 deaths in Philadelphia during the last few months, over 1,100 have been from small-pox. The deaths from small-pox now are at the rate of 220 per week; yet, with the disease in such a virulent form so near them, there are hardly any cases in Baltimore or Washington, thanks to the energetic action of their Boards of Health.—The Russian minister, Cataczy, who made himself so disagreeable to President Grant by trying to defeat the Washington Treaty with Great Britain, has gone home with a flea in his ear, and the affair has ended in a rupture of the cordiality heretofore existing between our Government and that of Russia. Prince Gortschakoff, the Russian minister, has published a note, couched in the strongest terms, refusing to accept the charges against Cataczy as proved, and complaining, almost with bitterness, of the treatment of Cataczy by Secretary Fish. The Russian Government also thinks that the Grand Duke was not treated courteously by President Grant; but we do not see how he could act otherwise, his relations with Cataczy being what they were.—Hartford, Conn., is talking about a site for the new State capitol. Some propose that the Trinity College Grounds be bought for a location; and we hear that it has been even suggested that the American Asylum might seek a new site in the country and the State-house take the old one.—Prince Alexis has been hunting buffaloes with Generals Sheridan and Custar in Nebraska, and telegraphing his lucky hits to his papa, the Czar.—A son-in-law of Daniel Boone just died in California at the age of 128. Pretty fair for a postdiluvian; the antes did better.—The South Carolina Ku-klux are getting scared and fleeing the State.—The Pennsylvania railroad controls over 5,000 miles of road, and yet wants all the Southern railroads it can get.—One of the most talented and eloquent men of America was refused a seat at the *table d'hôte* of a St. Louis hotel the other day. Reason: His name was Frederick Douglas.—Kicking is a bad business. A gentleman at Mt. Auburn tried to kick his dog, lost his footing, and smashed his head so badly as to necessitate a funeral. A "lady"—save the mark!—in Worthington, Ohio, recently aimed a kick at her husband, missed him, and killed a little child standing near. The husband probably dodged her foot with unexpected agility; but then that is no excuse for the accident.

FOREIGN.

The Prince of Wales has recovered and said "good-bye" to his doctor.—Gen. Sherman, and Lieut. Grant, the President's son, have reached Europe, and been received with great respect in Madrid by King Amadeus.—Dr. Kane's accounts of the open polar sea are confirmed by the German explor-

ing expedition.—When France shall have paid her debt to Germany the sum will count up 5,000,000,000 francs, or one billion dollars, which represents one-tenth of the whole specie and bullion found in the world. Somebody will be poor and somebody else rich when this little matter is satisfactorily settled.—There is a terrible famine prevailing in Persia. It is estimated that one-quarter of the population in the great cities is already dead, and that many of the villages are entirely depopulated. In addition, the fierce barbarian nations on the frontiers of Persia are taking advantage of the starving people, making continual inroads, murdering, robbing, and ravaging.—The Emperor of Brazil is travelling in Europe. He is indefatigable in his pursuit of knowledge. He begins his day's work long before other people are out of bed. He means to do something for Brazil when he gets home.—Prince Bismarck has been interviewed again. "The French," he said, "talk about conquering Germany at no distant day. Let them first conquer themselves." That's so. President Thiers being dissatisfied with some action of the French National Assembly, resigned in a pet, but the Assembly persuaded him to withdraw his resignation. France cannot well do without him yet, but it may try soon.—That unhappy country, Mexico, is again convulsed with the throes of civil war. The revolutionists have lately been just successful enough to make the future very uncertain. It is well nigh self-evident that this people cannot govern themselves.—The Cubans also keep up their revolt against the rule of Spain, and the government of that country has sent over more troops.

CONGRESS.

In the House there has been some lively sparring between Butler, of Massachusetts, and Cox, of New York, about the Puritans, the latter ridiculing and the former defending them. This episode grew out of a resolution accepting the statue of Roger Williams from the State of Rhode Island, to be placed in the Capitol. A Democrat moved the words "nation of the United States" in the resolution be stricken out, and "people" be substituted. The House voted 113, all Republicans, to 78, all Democrats, that the United States is still a nation.—Fifty women went in a body before the Judiciary Committee of the U. S. Senate two weeks ago and demanded female suffrage. They were delegates from a convention then in session at Washington. The Committee reported unfavorably on their demand. In the House Gen. Butler presented a petition for female suffrage with 35,000 signatures, and spoke in favor of granting it. In the meantime Judge Jameson, of the supreme court of Chicago, has rendered a decision against the claim that women are given a right to vote under the Federal Constitution.—A bill to regulate the admission of students into the National Deaf-Mute College has been brought forward in the House. It is similar to the one introduced into the Senate in December.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

THE RIVAL BOSTON SOCIETIES.

A SPECIAL meeting of the officers of the two Christian societies was held recently, and the result was an agreement signed by all, in which the whole matter was handed over to three referees, Rev. Wm. W. Turner, Edward C. Stone, and John R. Keep, of Hartford. Full power was delegated to them to dictate name, constitution, and by-laws for the new society, as well as to dispose of all existing antagonisms as they saw fit, the officers agreeing, on behalf of the two societies, to do just as the referees should advise. Meantime, in order to attain to a degree of fraternal feeling, and to do away with any coldness existing, it was agreed to worship in each other's halls in rotation, carrying the rotation also into the prayer-meetings and lectures. This arrangement has been carried out to the present time. On Christmas day documents were received from the referees, in which they recommend the deposit of the funds on hand with a trustee, the quiet dissolution of both "Union" and "Association," by calling a meeting of all members of both and reorganizing under the name of "The United Society of Deaf-Mutes in Boston." The basis of organization is ecclesiastical, and therefore simple, doing away with all the heavy machinery, and of course with much of the expense. The sentiment is Evangelical, which is the only feature, almost, retained from the old organizations. A meeting was to be held January 10 for organization and the choice of officers, and all hands appear satisfied with the manner of settlement. It cannot be otherwise than beneficial to the deaf-mutes of both city and State.

MARRIED.

IN Belfast, Maine, December 30, 1871, NATHAN E. PENDLETON to MARTHA A. STOVER, both graduates of Hartford.

IN South Royalston, Mass., November 8, 1871, by the Rev. William W. Turner, of Hartford, Conn., OSCAR H. EVANS (Hartford, 1861) to MARY A. F. BURRAGE, (hearing lady.)

DIED.

IN Swanville, Maine, October 31, 1871, JACOB TRIFF, aged 75 years. Mr. Tripp entered the Hartford Institution in 1819, fifty-two years ago.

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Letter from General Howard.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 21, 1871.

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Yours truly,

O. O. HOWARD,

Brigadier General, U. S. A.

Letter of F. H. Smith, Stenographer.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23, 1871.

PROF. T. A. COOK:

We have used "Cook's Balm of Life" in our family during the past three or four months as an anti-dyspeptic, and as a tonic for the hair, and although I had, at first, no faith whatever in it, as a medicine, the result has made me one of your converts, and you could hardly say anything in its praise for these purposes that I should not be prepared to endorse.

F. H. SMITH,

Stenographer, 520 Third street Northwest.

Wm. S. Teel,

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